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know your LOVABLE MUTT

MURRAY

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know your LOVABLE MUTT

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Earl Schneider, editor

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1 That Lovable Mutt!

They think they're insulting him when they call him a mutt! Hah! They couldn't bruise his dignity even if they said it to his face—which they often do. Mutt he's called and mutt he is and mutt he'll remain. He's a pure-blood, too—pure dog! *Canis*, that is. But, mutts don't go in much for Latin. They prefer common language. You couldn't even call him *Canis familiaris*, which is what dogs that live with man are called. If you're going to get familiar with him, you'd better speak his tongue. Call him mutt . . . cur . . . mongrel . . . curb setter. Don't go pussy-footing around with mixed-breed or cross-breed. He's too honest for excuses.

You see, he is the familiar dog. The one you see on the street in the big town or out on a country road. He's a common sight. *Canis familiaris*, right? He's democratic, too. He'll choose his own mate if possible. No pre-arranged marriages for him! Family trees? There's only one kind of tree that interests him. He's as much dog as you are human. He varies from climate to climate and continent to continent. He looks different in the city to what he does down on the farm. In truth, he pretty darn well forms new breeds himself wherever he roams!

The mutt's the hero of a thousand tales, though he sports but one. He's been the leading man in movies—witness the well-known names of Daisy, Corky and Shaggy. And what old-timer can't remember the Our Gang mutt, the all American Yankee Bull Terrier? And, no matter how breed lovers argue over the ancestry of their breed as depicted in those ancient Egyptian and Assyrian monuments, those dogs look to me just like the hungry mutts of today.

Now, my mutt and I have no argument with blood-line dogs. No Sir! That pure-blood can be smart. He's chosen to lead blind people. He guards super-secret atomic installations. People vary *their* form of hunting to cater to the hunting-dog's inherited instincts. And, those sheepdogs make man look just plain stupid. No Sir! My mutt and I don't look down on his cousins (and, on more than one occasion, brothers and sisters). They're beautiful and bright. We just

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Girl meets mutt.

go watch a circus and enjoy those mutts do gymnastics even monkeys won't try. Or, we'll ride out to Harry's farm and see Mutt's mother bring in the cows. (Where have the pure-bred cow-herd dogs gone? Are they all in kennel shows?) We might even go and see the mayor pin a Hero's award on a mutt that saved a kid's life. No, my mutt and I don't go in for glamor. We just like each other. Sometimes I'll get mad at some fool trick of his—he's always trying to show that he can get away with what a human can—or, then again, he'll be sore at me and won't even speak to me. Not for at least five minutes sometimes. Dollar-wise, he's good for nothing—except love.

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Let's be friends.

2 Mutts and how they got that way

"Hey Sonny! What kind of mutt is that?"

Now, tell me, could you ask for a sillier question? Today, mutt means mongrel and a mongrel is the crossing of two or more breeds. A true mutt can claim to be only a dog. No less. No more.

The term mutt comes from mutton-head, or someone stupid. Mutton-head was first applied to people, so we can claim an average mutt is as good as a human. However, cur was once the nice, honorable name used for dogs in early

America. These dogs were most likely crosses between hounds and herd dogs. Just remember this: a hound or herd dog back in 1800 had no pedigree papers. By our definition today, curs were dogs resulting from the mating of mongrels. Sounds sort of silly, doesn't it?

Selective breeding of dogs is an art as old as mankind. Because of the time and expense involved, it was limited to people of means or to people who depended on their dog for a livelihood, like shepherds. After the science of genetics came into being in the nineteenth century, breeding was organized and today's dogs are the result.

Many dogs today are "created" breeds less than one hundred yeard old. The Boxer is one. The Doberman Pinscher and Boston Terrier are others. Technically, they are cross-breeds. Their progeny have been culled so that only the pups with characteristics wanted were allowed to reproduce. Outside of the care taken in their reproduction, these handsome, intelligent animals are mutts by ancestry.

Many breeds are ancient. The Pekingese is most likely about 4,000 years old. Greyhounds and Salukis may approach that age in history. Spaniels are more than 700 years old. And large snub-nosed dogs like our mastiffs are ancient, too. The Bloodhound could well have a consistent history of three or four thousand years. But if you begin to claim grand and glorious pasts for a Cocker or a specific Terrier or hound —whoa! These breeds have changed! They've been dwarfed, colored, made bigger, given more or less hair, turned into a dozen breeds. There are over 100 breeds recognized as pure-bred in America alone! And foreign kennel clubs have others. Why, there's almost a "breed" to parallel every type mongrel you can find.

The past

Unless you firmly believe that dogs evolved from dozens and dozens of different evolutionary forefathers, you'll have to come down to two or three dog-like animals that were able eventually to interbreed and form—mutts. Pardon me dogs. Some say the ancestors of wolves and jackals determine some breeds. Modern dogs breed freely with wolves, but

there are no references to their being successfully bred with jackals; perhaps at one time, they were.

Somehow, nature produced such various animals as Greyhounds and Pekingese. Possibly, she did this with the help of man. We know dwarfing an animal is easier then enlarging it and keeping good qualities about it. Yet we know that certain dogs were used to guard sheep (not to herd them) because of their strong aversion to wolves. This leaves our poor cur nowhere. He is mentioned in the most ancient texts as being a rascal who does marvelous tricks. He's even mentioned as turning roasting-spits in medieval kitchens! The Mastiff, too, was once just a mongrel. Or, at least by name. He was the watchdog of the house—master of thief, hence Mastiff. The larger Mastiff we know today was then the butcher's dog or beefherder's dog.

Today, many mongrels have become so fixed in type that they almost form a breed unto themselves. The so-called wild dogs of India are some. The common free-running Turkish mongrel is another. And the Dingo truly a separate species or just a mongrel who has stabilized his genes over the course of a thousand years?

The original sheepdog supposedly came from Tibet. But a Collie bred for show doesn't look much like him. Which is the thoroughbred, the unrecognized Tibetan dog or today's Collie? We know, today, that it's very difficult to change a breed once it has been set. Outside blood is needed. This means mongrelization. And that is how our pure-bloods are formed.

Today, it's done scientifically and with great knowledge. While climate might make a dog's coat thicker, it has no bearing on the length of the coat. A smooth-haired variety of a long-coat dog—such as the Collie—is a genetic puzzle best worked out by experts.

Dogs tend to propagate with dogs of like size. Even mongrels tend not to mingle. Some pure-breeds have drifted so far apart that even chance fertilization becomes a wonder —that is, would a cross between a Chihuahua and a Newfoundland be able to take place? The is a rhetorical question so just don't answer no or yes. It's an old argument among experimental dog breeders, and it always makes news when it occurs.

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It's hard to bathe a big dog in a little tub, but with lots of perseverance and plenty of rinse water it can be done.

You see, the problem is not always in keeping a breed set. Often, it's in changing it. Very often. My mutt, my friend and my dog, is a representative of both sides of the question. He happens to be a short-haired dog of about twenty pounds with floppy ears. His snout is neither pointed not pug. He's a brindle brown. Has he Hound blood in him? Rather, has the Hound my mutt's blood in him? That Hound's been bred with other types to create "hound". He didn't originate "hound" 3,000 years ago! No, Sir!

I don't know what would happen if every cur in my town was crossed with every other cur—and all their generations were carefully intermingled. I would guess we'd end up with

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A healthy dog is a hungry one.

a stabilized group of curs that could reproduce their own type. There would be large dogs and little dogs and brown dogs and heavy dogs and light, lithe dogs. Some would have floppy ears while others would set at point. Coats and tails and snouts would differ, and many a group of dogs would form into packs and go their own separate ways.

But even if you took a thousand pure-breds of any breed and permitted *all* the pups to reproduce and intermingled their litters for many generations, Mendel's Law would come into effect and every blood line that ever went into that dog's being would be reproduced! We'd have a lot of curs! Good company for my mutt.

You see, the scientific term *Canis familiaris* means domesticated dog. It doesn't mean field dog or working dog or show dog or lap dog. What it means is "man's dog". That, to me, is mutt.

No one has ever kept a history of mutts. We know he's appeared in every age of history. The dogs of ancient times are gone. Today they're represented by modern breeds and by curs of every sort. You're never much more than the sum of all your grandparents. And neither is your dog.

The mutt can share in all the glory of a dog in history. He's a product of early dog, just as pure-breds are. He can often be trained to perform a pure-bred's job. He can be a thing of beauty too.

3 Genetics

Your mutt is what he is because of his parents and grandparents and great-grandparents, etc. His basic looks, a good deal of his personality, and his instincts have been passed down through genes. His mother and father each contribute one gene for each trait. Your mutt, therefore, has a pair or set of every variable about him: his size, color, length of hair and so forth. You say he doesn't take after his mother at all—and if that really is his father, your mutt doesn't resemble him either? Most likely true.

Gregor Mendel was a nineteenth-century monk who was interested in finding out why offspring did or did not take after their parents. He worked with peas, but what he discovered, holds true for all living things. Let's set up his law in terms of dogs. Let's have a black dog mate with a white bitch. Now, if all—every one—of the black dog's parents and grandparents have been black, the litter that the white bitch will produce, assuming she has six puppies, will be:

Black Black Black Black Black Black

This is because the gene for black is dominant. It overshadows the white or recessive gene. But, it must be *pure* black. All the dog's parents and grandparents must have

been black. Now, if this litter were inbred with each other, brother to sister, and each again had six puppies, we might get the following totals.

4 or 5 Pure Blacks (25%)

4 or 5 Pure Whites (25%)

8 to 10 Black Carrying Recessive Genes for White (50%)

You would actually need hundreds of dogs to make these averages come out—but they will prove themselves if you have enough litters and dogs. The black pups with recessive white genes are the hybrids of the litter. They will each be capable of reproducing black, black-heterozygous for white, and white pups the same as their parents.

The pure black pups, however, will now only produce black pups like their grandparents and the white likewise.

This is an oversimplification, to be sure, but it will help you understand why your mutt looks like he does. Should you intend breeding your mutt, or should she get in a family way, this law most likely will tell you little. This is because our beloved friend is truly a mongrel with so many genes and traits from so many families that it's difficult to know what to expect unless you know the pedigree for many generations back. Breeders of pure-breds can, however, predict with a fair certainty. This is the value of a pedigree and pure blood lines. If all his Cocker Spaniels have been black for ten generations, he can pretty well know his next litter will be black. Surprise? A white one? It could be that law of averages on needing hundreds of dogs to make the law hold true or, it could be a mutation, a sudden change in genes that ignores the law and causes a change in the breed. What an understanding of Mendel's Law can do for you is to help you "guess'—it won't be much more than that—the various stocks that went into the making of your cur.

Here are some dominant and recessive traits as listed by Davis in the *Modern Dog Encyclopedia.* Using Mendel's Law, you can approximate both the ancestors and possible offspring of your mutt.

Color inheritance

Dominant	Recessive
Black	All other colors
Solid color	Mostly white
Black-and-tan	Tri-color
Black-and-tan	Liver-and-tan
Black-and-tan	Red (type I)
Red (type II)	Black-and-tan
Brindle	Tan
Sable	Black-and-tan
Red (any type)	Cream

Leg length

Short legs (imperfectly)	Long legs

Eye color

Brown eye	Yellow eye
Brown eye	Pearl eye

Coat characteristics

Short hair	Long hair
Wire coat	Smooth coat
Coarse hair	Fine hair
Sparse coat	Dense coat
Straight	Curly

Miscellaneous

Straight tail	Curly tail
Short ears	Long ears

Mental aptitudes

Chop voice	Drawling voice
Bird interest	Lack of bird interest
Water going	Nonwater going

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Mutts make excellent protectors.

4 Mating and whelping

Most female mutts have a family by accident rather than by planned parenthood. This is almost bound to occur should she be left free to roam unless you decide to have her spayed. This is a simple operation that your veterinarian can perform to remove both her ability and her desire to reproduce.

The bitch will first be capable of reproducing at about eight months of age, regardless of breed or background. This period is called "heat" and will occur twice a year, approximately six months apart. Most bitches will be in heat for about eighteen days. The first six or seven days is called the "coming in" period. The vulva becomes distended and the bloody vaginal discharge begins. Following this come seven to fourteen days when she is fertile and mating will most likely be successful. The "going out" period lasts for the remaining week or so. After this, she is considered "safe" and will neither want a mate nor be able to conceive. Times vary with every bitch but once the periods are set they remain that way for the life of the animal. Therefore, by timing the first heat of your bitch, you will be able to calculate the times when she should be kept under control to prevent an unwanted litter.

The gestation period—that is the length of time the bitch will carry her puppies—is from 58 to 65 days, the average being 62 or 63. During this period she needs an ample supply of vitamins and nutrients. Mild but frequent exercise is important. Since you will have a pretty good idea of the time she was impregnated—her last heat period—you can calculate when she will whelp.

Prepare a whelping box. This should be placed a few inches off the floor and away from drafts. Several layers of newspapers can serve as bedding. Don't disturb her during her labors, but be on hand. After the first pup is born, all should go well. If the second doesn't appear within an hour, a veterinarian's advice may be neccessary.

Larger dogs often take all day to whelp five or six puppies. Smaller ones may deliver them all within the first hour. The key to good whelping is whether or not the pups are being

delivered at regular periods.

Knowing the size of the litter from which your bitch came will help you to determine how many puppies to expect. The general rule is about six; however, mongrels often give birth to more. A closely inbred dog often has just a few—two or three being the rule rather than the exception. Expect five and you won't be too unprepared for seven.

The new mother instinctively takes care of her pups. She bites the umbilical cord and eats the afterbirth which contains chemicals to start her lactation: that is, her milk secretion. She will also rip open the little sac the pup arrives in and lick him dry. Let her follow her instincts.

She should be wormed early in her pregnancy since it is possible for pups to be born infected with their mother's worms.

Should all go well (and with healthy mongrels it usually does) you'll have the joy of pups around the house.

Puppy love

These cuddly little bundles of love will keep their eyes closed for about eight days. Leave them to their mother. They're quite unafraid, but they are *new* born. Keep them warm. The only food they need they'll get from their mother. She will usually indicate when it's time to start weaning. Four weeks is the accepted age.

The first meal can consist of a mixture of one cup warm milk, one egg yolk, a teaspoonful of Karo syrup and a teaspoonful of lime water. Dip the puppy's nose in a bowl of this and he'll soon get the idea that here's something good! In a few days, he'll want to eat four times every twenty-four hours. Double the amount of milk and crumble some dry toast into the mixture. At all times let the puppy's appetite determine the amount of the meal. Give him all he wants to eat.

At five weeks of age, Pablum or pre-cooked cereal can be added. Normal mealtimes are morning, noon, late afternoon and evening. You can take them away from the mother about now. At six weeks start giving a half teaspoon of strained beef to each pup each day. The next week, make it two teaspoonfuls and add some cooked strained vegetables.

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A lifelong friendship is sealed with a kiss.

Morning: Milk, dry cereal or oatmeal, one tablespoonful each of lime water and Karo syrup.

Noon: Chopped raw or cooked beef, well-cooked mashed potatoes or spinach, puppy meal and cod-liver oil.

4 p.m.: Beef or mutton broth mixed with rice or barley, and, occasionally, cooked tomatoes seasoned with salt.

8 p.m.: Milk and toast or cereal, one tablespoonful lime water, a teaspoonful Karo syrup. Provide plenty of fresh water.

Eight weeks marks the time for the pup's first worming, and his initial round of inoculation shots.

After three months the meals can be reduced to three a day: eliminate the late evening meal. After six months, one in the morning and a second in the late afternoon should be sufficient. A year-old dog needs to eat only once a day, and should be given fresh cool water at least three times a day.

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Every puppy should have a bed to call his own.

5 The new pup in your home

Finding a pup, if you really want one, shouldn't be too difficult. Somebody in the neighborhood is bound to have a litter and be looking for good homes to place the pups. If yours hasn't been weaned, try to leave him with his mother until he is. Then, at eight weeks, don't forget his shots. You and not the mother's owner will be expected to pay for them. Find a vet and make an appointment. Buy some flea powder, two bowls for water and food, prepare a bed and bring the youngster home.

He'll probably be homesick his first few nights and will cry a little. Give him a warm thermos or hot water bottle to snuggle up to. Place his bed, lined with disposable rags or newspapers in a spot free from drafts. Befriend and console him, but don't spoil him by catering to his every whimper. He'll be all right in two or three nights.

Housebreaking

Dogs are naturally clean animals. They are loathe to soil their own beds, but puppies have frequent calls to nature and must respond. They do not know the difference between a Persian carpet and a tile floor, and must be taught. Remember your puppy is still a baby and intends no harm, he simply doesn't know better and should not be punished for unintentional misdeeds.

Housebreaking should begin at an early age. This should be accomplished in from four to eight weeks but you may expect occasional lapses in manners. Your puppy will usually relieve himself soon after eating. Adopt a definite feeding schedule and stick to it. He will soon learn to anticipate these times.

About ten minutes after feeding, take him outdoors for a walk. Use the same route every time. He may be attracted to a patch of grass or a pile of ashes and attend to his duty there. If he does, take him to that spot every time. Dogs usually like to relieve themselves on the ground. Some will go for blocks on a leash without this relief, but allowed freedom, will attend to this necessity promptly. If possible, walk your puppy with an older dog. He learns much by imitating other dogs.

Puppies from three to six months of age should be taken outdoors at least five times a day; six to nine months, four times a day; older dogs three times a day.

When your puppy commits an error on your carpet or best rug (and he will), go to him promptly and by the tone of your voice make it plain to him that he has made a grievous mistake. Scold him severely, place his nose in close proximity to the spot of the "crime", shame him, and then take him outside promptly. It will be too late, but he will eventually get the idea. If he continues to make these errors, repeat these proceedings and give him several sharp slaps across the rump with a folded newspaper.

If it is not practical to take him outdoors every time, place a layer of paper—torn-up or folded newspaper will do—in a corner and let him use that. When he has finished, praise him. Remove the paper and replace it with a fresh one, but keep a

piece of the soiled paper in that spot. The smell and the location will assure him that he can attend to nature there without committing a crime. A sand box can also be provided for the small puppy, but the newspaper will do and is easily disposed of.

It is best to keep the puppy in one room at first, preferably the kitchen or a linoleum-floored room. For a while he won't understand all this commotion about relieving himself, for this attention is foreign to his instincts, but he will soon learn.

House manners

Dogs quickly learn to love their masters and to associate with their scents. Chairs, beds and slippers are natural favorites. Repelling odorants are available; these smell bad to your pup but have no odor to you. Nor will they harm most fabrics. The old standby, the folded newspaper, will quickly get him off the chair. He'll catch on rapidly if you keep at it while he's a pup but if you are overly tolerant he'll have this bad habit the rest of his life.

Slipper chewing is usually a manifestation of teething. Make sure that he's got a good bone to work on, and buy him some teething toys. Here too the use of the folded newspaper is effective, but only if you catch him in the act.

Should your hungry little mutt beg at your dinner table, remember that you should have fed him beforehand. If his feeding hour is later than yours, remove him from the room. Once accustomed to this routine, the odors of your dinner will only remind him of his own food to come—not of yours.

Name calling

No, not swearing. Give your dog a name—a short one that he can understand. And use that name only, making sure that everyone in the family does the same. No reason to confuse him. The little fellow should respond to his name as if it were a command, especially if he's one of those lucky dogs allowed to roam free.

Teach him the command "Come" as well. Reward him when he does. As a matter of fact, the best way to train him

to come is to tempt him with a light snack. Soon, your mutt will come running at your command. Teach this command until it becomes almost a reflex action on the part of your dog.

Puppy health

Make sure the little guy gets plenty of exercise. Should you have children in your home, the problem might be not to tire him out! A ball, a toy that makes some noise, and a real bone will keep him pretty busy.

Unless it's midsummer and warm, avoid bathing your pup until he's six or eight months old. Regular brushing and liberal applications of insecticide will keep him healthy.

And give him all the sleep he wants! Pound for pound, he'll be eating twice as much as a mature dog. He'll also be burning up twice as much fuel in his energetic outbursts.

Summer brings a few easy-to-solve problems. Let him sleep in a cool spot. He'll love a tile floor. Keep his water fresh. Take care of insect bites—chiggers love dogs as much as they do humans.

Most of all, give him healthy doses of love and affection. Provide discipline when needed—at all other times hand out love.

Diets for dogs

Eskimos eat only meat; people in India are total vegetarians. Now what should your dog have for dinner?

He needs proteins and carbohydrates and fats and vitamins and minerals, but he needs them in different proportions than you do. He also needs different *types* of proteins.

A dog needs fats in his diet for his skin and coat as well as for energy. He must have nine different amino acids (proteins) for good nutrition. Yet, he can survive on an imbalance. There's no reason he should as long as you're there to give him food. He'll be a healthier mutt if he's properly fed.

Before going on to some suggested diets for mature dogs, let's remember bones. The dog receives many important minerals from the marrow, and the hard surface helps keep

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To give pills: press the lips over the teeth with one hand. For small dogs use the index finger as a pusher. Large dogs require that you use the index and middle fingers.

his teeth clean. A good beef bone once a week is good for him —but splintery chicken and pork bones or flexible fish bones are dangerous and should be avoided.

Here are some one-meal-a-day menus for mature dogs of varying weights:

For Dogs 5 to 15 pounds

¼ to ¾ cup meat.
¼ to ¾ cup cereal or 1 or 2 slices buttered toast.
¼ to ¾ cup vegetables or table scraps.
½ to 1 teaspoonful cod-liver oil twice a day until warm weather.

For Dogs 15 to 30 pounds

¾ to 1¼ cups meat.
¾ to 1¼ cups cereal or 2 to 4 slices buttered toast.
¾ to 1¼ cups vegetables or table scraps.
1 to 2 teaspoonfuls cod-liver oil twice a day until warm weather.

For Dogs 30 to 50 pounds

1¼ to 1¾ cups meat.
1¼ to 1¾ cups vegetables or table scraps.
1¼ to 1¾ cups cereal or toast.
1½ to 3 tablespoonfuls cod-liver oil twice a day until warm weather, or a vitamin concentrate.

For Dogs 50 to 80 pounds

1¾ to 2½ cups meat.
1¾ to 2½ cups vegetables or table scraps.
1¾ to 2½ cups cereal or toast.
Vitamin concentrate.

Liver, heart and kidney are at the head of the nutritional meat list. Next comes muscle meat—beef and horsemeat. Fish should be boiled and boneless and pork may be fed if government inspected and well cooked.

Foods prepared specifically for dogs take into consideration the various amino acids needed. However, dry and cooked cereal as well as bread are also nourishing. Pablum is a favorite puppy food.

Vegetables should be cooked. They provide bulk as well as vitamins and minerals. Fruits should also be cooked. They're an excellent source of copper and iron. Your dog does not need vitamin C and has little taste for citrus foods.

Prepared cod-liver oil and vitamin and mineral supplements in liquid and powder form are available at pet departments and stores.

So, Eskimos eat only meat and Hindus eat only vegetables. They have nothing to do with your dog in this climate in this house. Feed him both and he'll be a brighter mutt, a happier mutt, a handsome dog!

6 First aid

As with the people they live with, dogs will require occasional emergency care. It's best to be prepared. As a general first aid measure, apply the same techniques you learned for humans. Make sure you have a "family" vet—one you can get to quickly in case of emergency. No time then to ask your neighbor the name of his vet.

Keep gauze, bandages, boric acid, iodine, scissors and tweezers in a special place as a first aid kit for your mutt as well as your kids. Then you'll know where to lay your hands on things when the emergency arises.

As a rule, moving a dog who's been hurt puts him in even greater pain. Muzzle the larger dog before attempting to help him. Drop and fold a blanket over a smaller dog so you can move him in the blanket. Now, let's review some canine first aid measures.

Shock

The symptoms are rapid and weak heart beat. It occurs frequently after accidents. Treat before any other injuries are attended. Cover your mutt with a blanket to keep him warm, or bring him indoors. Coffee with sugar and cream, spoon-fed if necessary, should be administered as a stimulant.

Alcohol is a depressant and should not be used for treatment of shock.

Broken bones

Consider a very badly hurt leg broken if you're not positive. Keep the leg as straight as possible. If a portion of the bone protrudes through the skin, pull the leg until the bone point no longer shows. Tie a stick to the leg at points above and below the break. Should other bones be broken, leave them for the vet. A pelvic (hip bone) break will usually heal by itself. The vet can usually set other breaks without much difficulty.

Poisoning

Now there's no time for the vet. Treat first. Then call or go to him. Try to ascertain the type of poison so the vet can prescribe and administer the proper antidote. Force your dog to vomit. Hydrogen peroxide (a 3% solution) mixed half-and-half with water and administered at a tablespoon for each ten pounds of dog is advised. Then provide Epsom salts, a teaspoonful in a bit of water, to empty his intestines. They are good in all types of poisoning but, specifically, the peroxide is also the antidote for phosphorus, and the Epsom salts for lead poisoning. The "hypo" used by photographers in the darkroom is the antidote for arsenic, and a teaspoonful is enough.

If you don't know the source of the poisoning or what it is, give these three antidotes in this order and you will have covered the vast majority of accidents due to poisoning.

Cuts and bruises

A bad cut with loss of blood will require a tourniquet above the cut. Relax the knot every ten minutes or so. Other cuts can be treated in this manner: If it is a large cut, apply a pressure bandage to help form a clot. A loose bandage will just absorb the blood.

A minor cut will heal rapidly and, since you want the

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While teaching your puppy to walk on a lead, tug him gently into position each time he pulls forward or hangs back.

flowing blood to wash out the cut, a pressure bandage is not in order. If it's just an ordinary household type of cut, apply antiseptic—one less searing than iodine is just as effective for your dog as for you—and trim the fur from the area with blunt-nosed scissors. Dog-blood clots rapidly and if it doesn't, a trip to the vet is recommended.

Bruises and abraded skin should be gently washed and antiseptic applied. Most dogs will worry away any protective covering but apply one anyway to keep him from licking the wound and possibly ingesting the antiseptic.

Artificial respiration

This first aid technique is useful for dogs in shock without other bodily injury, and for dogs who've got water into their lungs. Place the dog flat on his side, and press down on the chest cavity, then draw up. This pushes air out and the springing back of his ribs draws fresh air in. Press at the rate of twenty times a minute until he can breathe without your help.

Removing substances from the mouth

Should you have to put your hand inside the mouth of your dog, first insert a block of wood or broom handle crossways to keep the teeth from closing on you. A pair of pliers for larger dogs and tweezers for smaller ones will remove bone chips and foreign matter.

7 Some common ailments

Good diet and attention will ward off many dog ailments. Sanitation is most important, too. Yet dogs, like people, get sick. Very few diseases a dog might get can be transmitted to humans and the reverse holds true as well. There are, however, many similarities in ailments even though they go by different names, and it will help if you know what these ailments are.

First, get to know your vet. Should you need immediate attention for your mutt, trying to go through the yellow pages or asking friends whom they use, will take too much time. Line up a vet when you first acquire the pup. You'll need him for shots. Get to know him, his hours, his telephone number. Once he gets to know your dog, he'll probably do most of his "house-call" work by phone. For instance, if you suspect your dog has worms, call him first. He may prefer that you bring a specimen of the dog's feces rather than the dog himself.

Now let's review some of the more common dog ailments.

Remember, your mutt is no more susceptible to illness than a purebred dog. If he's healthy to start with, he'll recover that much faster.

Worms and Worming

Lack of appetite, loose bowels, and a bloated stomach can all be symptomatic of worms. There are on the market commercially prepared worm capsules. Their labels caution that the type of worm be identified since medication, frequently poisonous, varies. If in doubt see your vet. Let him specify the type and amount.

Roundworms: Often contracted by puppies, these worms grow large and long. Whitish in color and pointed at both ends, they sometimes resemble a mass of spaghetti. A few puppies are born with them, having become infected from their mother during pregnancy. Immunity is possible and many older dogs develop an effective resistance. Your vet will prescribe a form of piperazine in ratio to the size of your dog. The use of this medication will not require keeping food from your dog as some vermifuges do. The best preventative measure is sanitation. It is quite possible for the dog to reinfect himself by ingesting the egg of the worm he has passed. Therefore worming should be done twice at ten-day intervals to eliminate both eggs and worms.

Hookworms: The hookworm is a very small bloodsucker that infests the intestines of a dog. It draws nourishment from blood rather than from the food in the digestive system and can be a cause of anemia. Hookworms too enter your dog's body through the mouth but not always as eggs. Your vet will prescribe an oral medication or injection. Precautions are the same: sanitation and clean habits.

Tapeworms: These can be passed on to dogs by the flea (your best reason for getting rid of fleas) or by meat. This means there are two types of tapeworm. Their segments when present can often be seen in the dog's stool or in the

hairs around his anus. They are about the size and shape of grains of pinkish rice. Your vet can examine a smear and prescribe dosage for worm and dog. Within an hour after dosing, the dog will usually have passed his tapeworm. However, be mindful of the possibility that there were several in your dog and watch for signs that a second worming may be necessary.

Prevention lies in keeping your mutt free of fleas and uncooked meat. The so-called rabbit tapeworm also infests pork, fish, beef and horsemeat. Remember too that a dog can reinfect himself with old fleas since they have laid eggs around the house. Their offspring can pass the tapeworm egg on to the dog again.

Ringworm and eczema: Ringworm is actually a fungus, a yeast-like mold that produces skin lesions with a subsequent loss of hair. Iodine and glycerine or any good fungicide will usually do the trick if it is ringworm and not mange. If such treatment is not effective, let your vet examine the lesions and prescribe. It is generally believed that fungi cause eczema too. This is a moist thickening of the skin that causes the dog to chew and scratch himself. Effective medications are available, and fungicides have proved themselves effective.

Isolation is recommended as fungi infecting animals yield spores that are easily transmitted. Wash your hands thoroughly after treating your dog or handling him.

Manges and mites

Two forms of skin mange and one of ear mange are caused by mites.

Sarcoptic mange: This is caused by a microscopic cousin of the spider who likes to inhabit the skin of dogs. It is easily treated and there are fine commercial medications available. Your dog will soon let you know if he's got the mange or something similar by his constant scratching of the area, and the redness of the skin.

Ear mange: This is produced by another tiny mite. This one

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Slap your palm with a rolled-up newspaper. The sharp sound will draw the dog's attention and serve as a reprimand.

produces a crumbly, brown wax in the ear. It too can be treated with an effective preparation available in pet departments and shops.

Demododetic mange: Also known as red mange and a mite again is the cause. This one prefers the head and muzzle areas as well as the forelegs for his favorite spot. It too, like the other manges, can be effectively combatted.

Mange mites sometimes move over to humans. This is extremely infrequent and as the canine variety cannot reproduce in human skin, the eruption, if any, soon disappears. Remember, however, that many dog medications contain DDT or other insecticides which may be harmful and always wash your hands after treating your dog.

Virus and bacteria

Pneumonia usually lasts about five days and can be quickly cured with the new wonder drugs if caught and controlled in time. Symptoms are heavy breathing, high temperatures and coughing. Your dog should be kept as warm as possible and allowed to rest and recuperate.

Strep throat is possible in a dog as well as in man. His temperature will go as high as 105°F. and he'll have trouble swallowing food. It can be cured rapidly with such modern drugs as penicillin. It will run its course in a week.

Leptospirosis is a serious kidney ailment that is difficult to diagnose. Penicillin is the veterinarian's preferred medication, and if given in time proves highly effective. Jaundiced (or yellow-colored) eyes and gums are symptoms of one form. One of the best preventatives is to make sure that your mutt never chews old bones found outdoors.

Distemper: Correctly called Carre's disease, is an old disease that is now well under control. Puppy vaccination is the answer, and most pups should have had their shots by their tenth week. If your bitch has a litter take the pups to the vet's for their shots when they are eight weeks old. If you've got five or six pups, better call him first and let him get himself prepared! The cost is cheap for the protection it gives. Mature dogs rarely succumb to distemper because they have built up an immunity. But to puppies it is frequently fatal. So

play safe, even if you come by an older dog. If you don't know whether or not he has been inoculated have him injected anyway. It can do no harm and it may save his life.

Vaccinations

Provide protection for your dog. There are many, many kinds available for different maladies. Your vet will advise you as to which are recommended for your area of the country. Some municipalities and states require certain shots as well as licensing. Obey the law and have a healthy, happy dog as well!

Fleas, ticks and lice

A dog running free is apt to contract any one or all three of these parasites. Preparations containing insecticides are very effective. Many veterinarians can also provide a "dip" or medicinal bath or show you how to prepare one.

Fleas are the small insects that love dogs. Dog fleas love only dogs, but human fleas are more fickle. They like dogs too. So either kind will jump onto a dog, live there, and lay eggs. The eggs, however, usually hatch somewhere else. But no matter how often you rid your dog from fleas, he can very easily reinfect himself. Fleas carry tapeworm and other disease. Get rid of them.

Ticks are like leeches. They suck blood by inserting their heads. Don't pull the body to remove it. Use a pair of tweezers. Grasp the insect firmly as close as possible to the dog's skin and pull firmly. If a bit of skin comes with it, so much the better as this assures you that no broken-off mouth parts are left behind to cause an infection. Then dab on a little disinfectant. A commercially prepared anti-tick spray or touching the tick with a burning-hot object will also do the job. Since a tick lays as many as 3,000 eggs at a time, re-infestation is easy. Scour the areas where your dog has lain to circumvent it.

Lice found on dogs in homes are uncommon. They are, however, potentially dangerous and should be quickly eradicated if your dog contracts them. Commercial powders prepared for ticks and fleas will do the job. So will special soaps and thorough medicinal baths.

Administering pills and liquid medicine

At the inner corner of your dog's lips is a naturally formed pouch—just right for pouring in a teaspoonful of medicine. Have a helper hold his muzzle firm and upright while you're doing it. A pill should be placed far back on his tongue and the muzzle held gently shut. Massaging the dog's throat will help him swallow. You'll know when the pill is down when his pink tongue appears against his lips as he swallows.

8 Looking his best

If groomed as carefully and as frequently as a show champion your mutt can look twice the dog he is. A pure-blood setter coming in from a day of hunting can look a mess. By regular brushing and periodic bathing, you can have a better looking dog—and one without doggy odor, too! These seven basic jobs will keep your mutt looking his best. They are: (1) brushing; (2) bathing; (3) coat clipping; (4) nail trimming; (5) ear care; (6) eye care; (7) teeth care.

Brushing keeps him clean

You'll need a brush, a comb, and a pair of blunt-nosed scissors. Should your mutt happen to have a beautiful coat, you may also want to invest in what's known as a hound glove. The brush you buy will be determined by your mutt. A fairly soft brush is needed for the puppy because of his delicate skin. A mature dog needs a stiffer brush than we do. Get a very stiff brush with long bristles for a long-haired mutt, a softer one with shorter bristles for the smooth-coated dog.

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Brush your puppy regularly. It will reduce shedding and also keep his skin and coat in a healthy condition.

When clipping puppy's nails it is usually sufficient to remove just the sharp little hook at the tip.

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Remember that the longer the bristle, the softer it will feel.

It is a common practice to brush with the grain: that is, in the direction the hair grows. You'll find you can get the dirt and dust out without much work if you do. However, the wire-haired mutt will need a scouring as much as a brushing, and in his case it's best to brush back and forth. Always finish your brushing by grooming the coat in the direction it naturally grows.

While you're brushing, stop and check the skin and hairs. Sticky brown material indicates fleas. So do small red spots resembling mosquito bites on the stomach. Raw, red skin could mean mange.

Combing is for both short- and long-haired dogs. Dogs with thick hair need a comb with heavy teeth set wide apart. The smooth-coat dog requires a fine-toothed comb. Combing is never a substitute for brushing! Use the comb first to untangle snarls and prepare the hair for brushing.

The hound glove is a "rough palmed" glove that is used to help "set" the silky hair of dogs such as setters. Should your mutt have a coat like this, the use of a hound glove after brushing will make him look very handsome indeed.

Giving the bath

Don't believe the old wive's tale about a dog never needing a bath. In his natural state, out-of-doors and free, a dog would be in and out of water constantly. Living with people, he's bound to get dirty. Trying to remove tar from a dog's coat with kerosene just to avoid giving him a bath is downright dangerous. Dogs need a bath, and one with soap on many an occasion.

In cold weather, make sure your mutt stays indoors and warm for several hours after his bath. Dry him thoroughly with a large towel or rags. Rub well into his skin, drying the undercoat. Incidentally, throw that towel all around him as soon as he emerges from the water—or you'll get a bath yourself.

Use a good germicidal soap or shampoo and rinse with clean running water. Get all the soap out. Any medicinal qualities will remain. Don't have the water too hot. Just keep

it warm enough to prevent a change in body temperature. That is, don't have the dog's paws in hot water and his body in cool air. If you wish to submerge him, fine. Just keep his neck and head above water. Rub the soap thoroughly into the fur, deep down to the skin. With a long-haired dog, lather the fur itself and make sure both soap and rinse water get down to the skin.

There are excellent commercial preparations on the market for dry-bathing your dog. Follow the directions on the label. A dry-bath is frequently necessary in winter or when your dog is recovering his health.

Coat clipping

Excuse me, but coat clipping and trimming is for ALL dogs, mutts and short-hairs included. There will be wild hairs growing on any animal—you and me included. A neatly trimmed tail will give your mutt a bit of dignity. Trimming the overgrowth between his toes will help him keep clean. On a long-haired mutt, light feathering on the legs can be as beautiful as on a pedigreed dog.

Brush, then trim. No need to try style conformation on a mutt, but if you want to give your long-haired dog some summer heat relief, take him to an expert. If it's a do-it-yourself job make sure it's only a trim—not a shave. Hair is a dog's protection and his pride. It insulates and prevents insect bites. Never close-clip a dog for the summer, thinking you're keeping him cool.

Trimming shears are available in most pet departments; or ordinary scissors will do—the blunt-nosed type.

Nail trimming

Pet departments and pet stores sell special dog-nail clippers. I advise you to buy them. They're tougher than human nail clippers being especially designed for a dog's claws. Almost every dog will need his nails trimmed. If not, the untrimmed nails spread the pad of the foot causing the dog to walk on his "heels", so to speak. This can lead to sore legs, and even leg deformities.

Make sure you don't trim the "quick", the blood vessel supplying nail growth. You can see it as a dark line coming from the toe. Give it plenty of room. If you should accidentally trim too close and the toe starts to bleed stop the flow with a styptic pencil. For a bad cut more drastic measures should be used. Hold the dog firmly and cauterize with a lit match. Check your dog's nails every two weeks at least to make sure none are split or broken. Trim as necessary.

Ear care

While grooming your dog check his ears. It's your first line of defense against ticks and mites. Cotton swabs with peroxide or olive oil (or other light oil) are the best way to clean them. There are commercial preparations available to dissolve the wax. Try not to probe any deeper into the ear than you can see. Avoid using soap.

Eye care

When your dog runs free he is quite likely to get grass seed and other foreign matter in and about his eyes. Wash thoroughly but carefully with a warm water solution. Excellent commercial preparations are also available in pet departments and pet shops. Constantly runny eyes that don't respond to mild washing should be reported to your veterinarian.

Mouth and teeth

A big bone is your mutt's best tooth brush. But many dogs collect tartar on their teeth rapidly, especially if they've had a puppyhood illness. Your vet can clean the tartar off and you can help prevent it forming by swabbing your dog's teeth once a week with a salt-and-water solution. His breath will smell the sweeter for it! That alone should make it worth the trouble.

If your mutt seems to have a toothache, have a vet examine him. A bad tooth will not fall out until some time after the nerve has died. Best to let the vet pull the troublesome tooth. Friend mutt will be the happier for it.

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Check your puppy's teeth regularly for discoloration or injury.

Clean your puppy's ears gently. Never probe deeper than you can see.

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Reprimand! Speak severely to your puppy when he disobeys.

9 Mutt school

It takes two to train. You and your mutt. You're the boss, and friend mutt knows it, even though he may stretch the limits

of your patience now and again. Now, you can either take your mutt to school or train him yourself. Oh yes, dog-training schools often accept mutts. But because your investment in your dog has most likely been nominal, we'll assume you'll at least want to give your dog basic training. Then, if he shows real promise . . . well, who knows. Maybe you will want him to go to Obedience School. Whether it's in his future or not, you'll have to play the role of teacher at home. There's a lot you both will have to learn.

The three general rules for a trainer are: patience, persistence and kindness. Don't give up. Repeat and review lessons until they're overly learned. Don't get mad and blow up—firmly reprimand. If you know no more about dog-training than this, and observe it, you'll soon have a well-trained mutt to be proud of. But there are ways and ways of doing things. Some prove faster than others. The following are accepted teaching methods that have been evolved through years of experience. Don't forget: dogs were being trained how to hunt before people were taught how to write.

An average healthy mutt should be ready for some serious training by the time he's adolescent. For extensive training, some trainers feel it's better to wait until he's a year old to make sure he's reached his mental maturity. A few even say wait a year and a half. Know your dog and don't push him too fast. Maybe old dogs don't learn new tricks, but a-year-and-a-half old dog is not old! If you've taken puppy training seriously you may find your mutt ready for simple dog training when he's only six months old.

Just a word about discipline before we get on to specifics. Make your reprimand pertinent. He'll understand you better if you scold him *while he's doing* something wrong than if you tell him about it even a minute later. Once you're sure he understands why he's been scolded, make friends again. Give him a pat and a kind word just to show you hold no grudges. Many a bright dog becomes sulky from too much or ill-timed scolding. End lessons on a cheerful note—a reward—and he'll look forward to them.

Training equipment

A few training aids make progress more rapid. The old standby is the newspaper. Folded several times and slapped into your hand, it makes quite a noise. Gets the dog's attention. Reminds him this is work, not play. Another thing you will need is a "treat"—a reward, perhaps a dog biscuit or a yummie. Or it can even be a favorite food. Let it be something your dog enjoys but doesn't get too much of. At the beginning let him expect the reward every time even though later you will expect him to obey whether he gets the treat or not.

A training collar, preferably with limited choke, is a wonderful training tool, but you won't need it for every lesson. As your dog pulls, the chain tightens around the base of his neck. The more he pulls, the tighter it gets. The chain only slackens when he lets up. Your mutt actually helps train himself. If he's a big dog, this saves your strength. If he's toy size, the training collar will pull him up short so remember to hold the leash a little lower. Don't be misled by the term "choke collar". It isn't cruel or mean. The term is descriptive of how the collar works, not of what it does. These collars are usually made of rustless metal chain and a good six-foot leather leash is recommended for training.

To use the training collar and leash, hold the handle of the leash in your right hand and take up the slack with your left. When the dog pulls or ignores a command, a short snap of your left hand will remind him to obey. If it doesn't work the first time, jerk it again until you gain his attention. Remember, don't tug: just a short sharp pull then release the tension immediately.

I also recommend a silent dog whistle. It's not expensive and it's much easier on the neighbors' ears than the old familiar attention-getting blast.

Commands

One single-syllable word makes a better command than two words or a multi-syllable word. Don't vary it. Give the command in a firm, stern voice This is school, not playtime. Avoid words that rhyme with words in your ordinary con-

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A choke chain is very helpful regardless of the size of dog you are training. Properly used, it controls the dog with a minimum of discomfort to him.

versation, otherwise he'll obey the word "feel" as if it were the command "Heel" if you should say it in the same tone of voice. End with the reward and a kind word.

Remember that the tone of your voice is more important in the early stages of training than the command itself. Your mutt will know when you mean business. And he'll know when you're pleased with his progress.

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Teach your dog to "Sit" each time you stop.

Good leash-manners

There is every reason you can think of why a dog should behave when he's led on a leash. Even if you're a country dweller there will be times when you'll want to take him to town or to a friend's home. The leash offers safety and control, and your mutt should learn to accept it and wear it with pride.

In the beginning a dog won't like a collar and lead so let him get used to them while he's still a puppy. He'll try to worry a collar off but if it's on securely and not too tight he'll soon turn his attention to other things. A piece of rag or rope trailing from the collar will get him used to the idea of a leash.

Your mutt should walk at your left heel and the leash should pass across your body into your right hand. When your dog strains hard on the leash, pull back sharply with your left hand and then relax. This is where the training or choke collar comes into play. As he pulls, the collar tightens; when he slackens, it loosens up. Never let the dog pull or strain against the tightened collar.

In accepted dog-training language the command for a dog to walk at your left side is "Heel". Once your mutt continues to walk this way while you hold the leash slack, you can consider that he's mastered his lesson. Your next step is to teach him to heel without the leash.

Expect him to wander away when you first set him free. While he knows the command, one of the conditions—the leash—is missing. His attention will wander and so will he. If he learned to "Come" when he was a pup, command him to "Come". When he obeys, proceed with the lesson. If he doesn't, retrieve him, put on the leash, walk a short way using the "Heel" command, then remove the leash and attempt to keep him heeling by just verbal command. If he heels even fairly close tell him what a great job he's doing. If he bounds off again, scold him.

Remember that your dog should be thoroughly trained to heed both commands "Heel" and "Come" before you attempt leash-free walking. Otherwise, you're in for a lot of dog chasing.

"Sit", "Down", and "Stay": These commands come next. When your dog has mastered "Heel" he'll be close to your left side and can be taught to sit. If he's heeling well, he'll stop when you stop. Gently push his hindquarters down as you command "Sit". Keep the lead taut to make sure that he doesn't lie down or roll over and play.

Let him up again, resume your walk, stop and review the lesson by gently pushing him into a sitting position again and saying "Sit". When he starts to sit before he feels your hand's pressure, it's time for a reward and a kind word. Matter of fact, always tell him how well he's doing no matter how much you've helped him.

Don't you confuse the dog. Each command has its definite action: "Heel", "Sit", "Down", "Stay". Don't say "Down" when you want him to sit, or "Sit" when you want him to stay. If you can't remember which is which, how can you expect the dog to?

A well-mannered dog off the leash is a remarkable animal indeed. One that other people will notice. A mutt who will make you proud. Surely such a pay-off is well worth the effort.

Initially, don't force him to remain sitting for more than a few seconds. As time goes by you can lengthen the "Sit" into a few minutes. Patience, persistence and kindness. Soon you'll be able to remove the leash and have him sitting every time you tell him to do so. But don't move too far away from the dog. Teach him the command "Stay" before you do that.

To stay is to remain sitting in the same spot until you say "Come" or "Heel". No matter how far away you move, even around a corner and out of sight, a well-trained dog if taught to "Stay" will stay where you've told him to. He will never follow you.

A natural extension of sit is "Down". After your dog assumes the sit position, gently pull his front legs away from under him while commanding "Down". If it seems more expedient to push his shoulders and he responds to this, do so. Keep the leash in front to help force him down. After he's down, a reward. Always, whether or not you help, reward.

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When teaching your dog to "Sit", hold his front up with your right hand, while pressing his rear down with your left.

Maintain a firm pressure until he responds properly.

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"Down." Pull down on the lead with one hand while pressing the rear quarters with the other.

If he has learned his "Heel", "Sit", and "Stay" lessons well, he'll respond to "Down" quickly. Again, once he has learned the command on-leash, repeat it endlessly until he learns to obey it off-leash.

10 Performing for fun

We've mentioned the fact that some circus dogs are curs—with a pedigree! Many of these dogs are descendants from known families that extend over several *human* generations. But not all mutts have the body build and agility to turn somersaults or dance on an elephant's back. Nevertheless, they have intelligence and can perform the standard repertoire of tricks that dogs have been doing for centuries. Remember most dog tricks actually take advantage of the animal's instinctive impulses. You merely set the scene so it will look more dramatic. First, the basics.

Begging

We're calling this begging rather than sitting-up to avoid confusion—yours, ours, the mutt's—with the command "Sit" used in obedience training. This time the command is "Beg". Here again, a dog will instinctively rise to his hind feet in play. When he does, grasp his paws and gently push him back on his rump. Hold him erect and try to get him to balance himself while you still have control. When you feel that he's resting firmly on his spine and seat take all support away except one hand. Then let this hand slip until you're supporting him by touching just one paw, then barely let it touch him, finally remove it altogether. At the same time constantly command him to "Beg". Doing this with his back in a corner helps to support him while he's learning. A finger held a bit above his nose will help him to focus his attention and gain balance.

Give him lots of praise, even for the shortest time he holds himself erect. Reward. Repeat. Later in the day, or early the next day, review. Once he's got the idea, he'll start doing it without command just to gain your attention. That's why many owners use this trick to teach their dog to ask for something. It's less noisy than barking. Soon he'll be asking you for water, to take him for a walk, or to find a hidden toy.

Many dogs just don't have the body build to do this trick successfully. You'll be able to see your mutt's potential by

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Support your dog in the proper position until he balances himself.

the way he holds his back while you're guiding him at first. Don't fret if this is tough for him—there are a dozen other tricks he can learn.

Shake hands

Puppies paw in play by instinct. Shaking hands is nothing more than taking the paw extended to you. What you should teach your mutt is that he should cross paws and offer you his right. First command him to "Sit". Then tap his right paw. Perhaps by accident, he'll offer it to you. If not, keep tapping until he does. As he does so, say "Shake *hands*" and

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A tidbit held above his head will encourage him to "Beg".

grasp it. Repeat. Again and again. If he seems slow in learning, try pushing against his left shoulder with your left hand while offering your right hand and repeating "Shake hands". He will lift his right foot automatically. Shake it, praise him, reward him.

Keep repeating until he rarely misses, but don't extend the lesson for more than a quarter hour. Review the lesson again that day, or the next for sure. When he has learned to shake hands every time, try teaching him to shake with his left paw by using a slightly different command such as "Other *Paw*".

Rolling over

Just as a dog will watch your finger when you're teaching him to beg, his eyes will follow a treat hidden in your hand. When playing with your mutt, give the command "Down". Then, holding the treat in your hand in front on his head, move your hand from extreme left, over his head to the floor on the right in an arch pattern. As his neck is not double-jointed, to follow your hand he will have to turn his head and body in a 180° arc. Keep one hand on his body to prevent his jumping up. Give him the treat for doing this.

Repeat again, this time helping him move his body by pulling his paws from one side to the other. Keep commanding "Over". Keep giving him help. Always after completion of the roll, reward. Whenever he starts to turn or move in any other way, begin again at the beginning. Never keep him at it for more than fifteen minutes and never end the lesson without a reward.

To fetch

Here's a trick that can be taught many ways—with many ends in mind. Should your dog have retriever blood in him, or show a natural inclination to fetch, the fetch method used in hunting might be easier for you and your dog. However, if he isn't much more than a bundle of fun, there's another way he can learn to fetch. Either way, it's possible to extend his training to the point where he'll bring the paper or your slippers.

A man's best friend.

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Mutts love to play ball. Tease him with it a few times to get him started. This should be done after he has learned to take and hold it on command.

You can throw just about anything and if you have your dog's attention he'll go after it to investigate. Maybe he'll pick it up. If you've taught him to come on command, he should come to you now with the object in his mouth. When you throw, say "Go *fetch*". Keep repeating this phrase, and you've taught him to fetch.

What's that? You can't get him to let go of the object once he's brought it back to you? Have another one in your hand. A better one. A toy he likes. You've run out of objects? Keep rotating them. He's playing and he'll chase any new thing. The important point is to have him come back to you, and

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Toss it just in front of him and command him to take it.

not play hide-and-seek. But don't reward him until he lets go of the object. That's your power, the reward.

Inside the house, leave a paper and tell him to "Fetch". The word fetch will be familiar to him. Put the item in his mouth (much like retriever training). He won't want it. Put your hand under his chin to try to loosen up his jaws, or use a training collar and hold it short. Then push the object when his jaws relax the slightest bit. Teach the word "Paper" or "Slippers" or whatever it is you want—simultaneously. "Go, fetch paper". He'll soon catch on that this is the same old game only without the throw!

Fetch by smell

Unless your dog has good hound blood in him, this will take some patience. All dogs have a highly developed sense of smell so they're equipped for it physically if not instinctively. First, teach him to fetch a particular toy on command. Then put him in a different room while you hide the toy. Don't hide it too well or you'll discourage him. Let him back into the room and tell him to fetch the toy. Most dogs will go in circles until they locate the scent. They catch on to the game

That lovable "Doggy in the window".

quickly. Now, the trick. Show him your wallet, your slipper, something with your scent. Let him play with it a bit. Best if he already knows the name of the object. Repeat as with his toy, this time commanding "Fetch Slipper".

Dancing

Once again, take advantage of your mutt's playful actions. Hold a treat up out of his reach. He'll jump for it if you hold it too high, so keep it just above stand-up reach. Tell him to "Dance" as you do this. Just as he's about to drop back on all fours, give him his reward.

Little by little keep him "dancing" longer. It's easier for him if he's moving about, so move your hand slowly in a circle. Should he drop after he's been up only a moment or two, still reward him. This is quite hard on a dog (like learning to walk on your hands) so shorten the usual fifteen minutes to five. In a week or two you'll have him dancing when you call the tune.

Hurdles and hoops

Mutts are smart. They're not going to work jumping over a hurdle when it's easier to go around or under it. But if you've ever seen one clear a short fence, you know he's got the capacity for the job. Put the leash on your dog and go over a low hurdle with him—one that's too low to bother crawling under. As you cross, gently pull him upright and forward, giving him the command "Over". Repeat many times, reward each time. Then start gradually raising the hurdle.

With a reward for going over—and over only—he'll never again want to go under. Now try it without the leash. Bar the sides and bottom if possible. Go with him. Advance to the other side of the hurdle and tell your mutt to "Come" and "Over".

Once this is mastered, go on to a hoop. Use a half-hoop at first; just an arc. Then proceed to a full one. Always make sure that the hoop is big enough: tight hoops will inhibit the best of inexperienced mutts, and your training will get you nowhere.

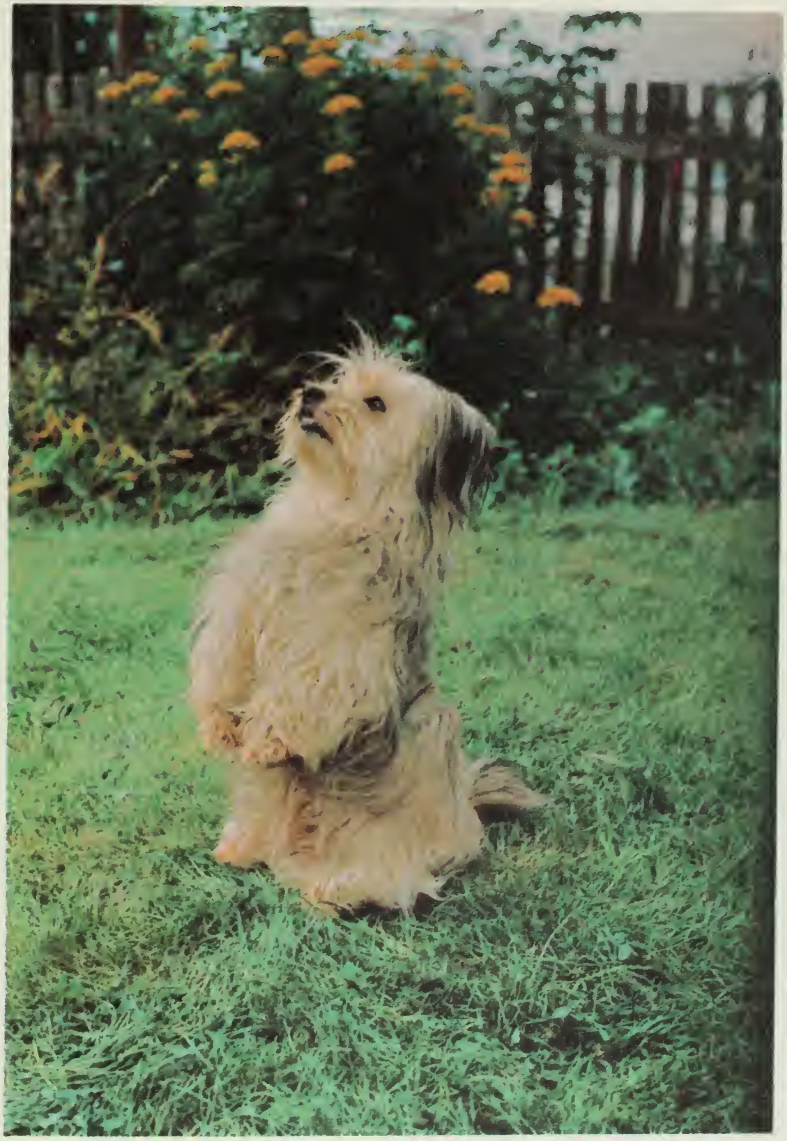
11 The magic of a Mutt

Bring a mutt-puppy home. Watch him grow. Look at the kids fondle him, pet and play with him. See how he returns their affection. Could you love him half so much if one ear didn't flop over or if he didn't have that silly corkscrew tail? And when he's feeling a bit under the weather, what other animal has such soul-filled eyes asking for your care and sympathy?

There's a certain magic about a mutt. It makes a home brighter. Even scoldings take on a cheerful note for he's as mischievous as your own children. He's mutt, all mutt. You couldn't care less who his parents are, not any more than you care who your wife's great grand-uncle was.

You got him from a neighbor. He cost little or nothing. Yet you're more than willing to give him kibble and meat and vaccinations—just like the blue-bloods get. You're not in awe of him or of his pedigree. No one is afraid to pat him. He'd rather play with the squirrel than catch him. Better yet, he'd rather play with you.

The mutt is your companion, family dog and friend. You'd never trade him for another. He's mutt . . . pure unadulterated dog, but magnificent!



SALLY ANNE THOMPSON

This mutt has learned to "Sit-up" each time he wants attention.

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